

2003 AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING CLE PROGRAM

Free of charge to all participants registered for the ABA Annual Meeting

**Presidential CLE Center at the Moscone Convention Center
San Francisco, California
Friday, August 8th
9:30am to 11:30am**

REPRESENTING THE EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS OF HOMELESS CHILDREN AND YOUTH: FEDERAL LAW AND LEGAL STRATEGIES

Presented by the ABA Commission on Homelessness and Poverty and
the ABA Steering Committee on the Unmet Legal Needs of Children

Forty percent of the 3 million people experiencing homelessness this past year were families with children. Four percent were unaccompanied children. When families and children experiencing homelessness move to a shelter, they are often denied their right to remain in their school of origin, or to enroll in the school of their or their family's choice within the shelter's district. Those complications are often compounded when schools fail to provide the additional support services that homeless children are entitled to under The McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act (Subtitle B - Education for Homeless Children and Youth). This comprehensive federal law ensures the educational rights and protections for children and youth experiencing homelessness. In addition, under 2002 reauthorization, it mandates 'choice' and other vital necessities, including transportation and nutrition.

This Presidential CLE Program will highlight those problems, and provide participants with the substantive knowledge necessary to advocate on behalf of a homeless child during school proceedings and informal mediation. Each participant will receive a copy of the recently released ABA book, *"Educating Children Without Housing: A Primer on Legal Requirements and Implementation Strategies for Educators, Advocates and Policymakers,"* to assist in clarifying the Act and its mandates. For additional information, contact the Commission (202-662-1693, hortona@staff.abanet.org) or the Steering Committee (202-662-1675 murphym@staff.abanet.org).

